IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

These the Application of

Inventors:

Akihiko YOSHIDA, et al.

Art Unit: 1745

Application No.:

10/730,256

Filed:

December 9, 2003

For:

ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE-ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY FOR FUEL CELL AND OPERATION

METHOD OF FUEL CELL USING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. These references were cited in a European Search Report dated April 8, 2004 (copy attached). US '347 was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed December 9, 2003.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 2, 2004

James E. Ledbetter

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ATTY. DOCKET NO. FORM PTO-1449 ' U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office SERIAL NO. L7990.03103 10/730,256 **APPLICANT** Akihiko YOSHIDA, et al. (Use several sheets if necessary) JUL 0 2 2004 FILING DATE
December 9, 2003 **GROUP** 1745 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** FXAMINER IF SUPPOPATETE DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NAME CLASS SUBCLASS 2 5 5 0 9 9 4 04/1996 **Dodge** FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS SUBCLASS DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE COUNTRY CLASS TRANSLATION YES NO 9 7 6 3 4 10/2001 1 1 **Europe** OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) European Search Report dated April 8, 2004 **EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED**